



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
District of New Hampshire*

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**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**  
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**MASSACHUSETTS MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN GUN CASE**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, and New Hampshire State Police Colonel Frederick H. Booth, announced that Patrick Avitabile, age 22, of Bridgewater, Massachusetts was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in connection with his prohibited possession of a firearm.

During a hearing before U. S. District Judge Paul J. Barbadoro, Avitabile was sentenced to a term of 71 months in prison and three years probation to follow. Avitabile had previously admitted that he possessed a loaded .38 caliber handgun on November 2, 2003 during a traffic stop on Route 95 in Seabrook, NH and that he was not allowed to do so because of a prior conviction.

U. S. Attorney Colantuono stated: "Strict enforcement of the gun laws is a priority of the Department of Justice. It is a responsibility that this office takes seriously and we will make every effort to insure that those who cannot legally possess a firearm will be prevented from doing so."

The successful prosecution of this case resulted from the efforts of the New Hampshire State Police. This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert J. Veiga.